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W.	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING				<u> </u>		
	to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.  Typed or Printed Name  Donna Macedo					ressed C	
						<u></u>	z III
	Signature	Mr Mac	Maria		Date June 28, 2001		D
	AMENDMENT & RESPONSE  Address to: Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231		Application Number	09/690	09/690,173		461
			Attorney Docket Number	10990638-2			10
			Filing Date	Octobe	October 16, 2000 Shannon Epps, J. 1635		BR ,
			First Named Inventor	Shann			102
			Examiner	Epps,			7/10
			Group Art	1635			•
			Title	Method for Linear mRNA Amplification		NA	

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated March 14, 2001 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before September 6, 2001. A Petition for a 1-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith, making this amendment due on or before July 14, 2001. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Applicants note that those claims not amended herein are being reiterated solely for the convenience of the Examiner.

## **AMENDMENTS**

## IN THE CLAIMS

32. (Amended) A kit for use in linearly amplifying mRNA, said kit comprising:

an oligonucleotide promoter-primer comprising an RNA polymerase promoter sequence; and

instructions to convert the mRNA to cDNA, and to then transcribe the cDNA into RNA in the presence of a reverse transcriptase that is rendered incapable of RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity during this transcription step.